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Environmental test

RCBHS students compete
in regional competition

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Remembering the past

Museum hosts lecture
featuring archaeologist
Gregory Braun

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Gymnasts headed to
Eastern Championships.
See page 34

get it
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Under the microscope



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Ridgeway Crystal Beach High School student Jordan Lukacs looks through a microscope to examine a sample of insects on Friday. The school hosted its annual Earth Day Fair for feeder schools. Friends of Fort Erie's Creeks also visited the school to provide an environmental presentation.

Mayor: Fort Erie treated unfairly

Doug Martin
applauds Auditor
General report of
OLG

Alison Langley
QMI Agency Niagara

Fort Erie Mayor Doug Martin is applauding a report by the Auditor General that claims the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation's "abrupt cancellation" of a program that gave the horse-racing industry a share of slot-machine revenues at racetracks was done without proper consultation with stakeholders.

"They had no consultations other than with the major centres they wanted to deal with," Martin said.

"We were not consulted whatsoever."

See Page 5



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Learning to live with a little less

Chippawa's Tanya Willick shares her experience living with poverty

Cheryl Clock
QMI Agency Niagara

QMI Agency Niagara has begun a year-long examination of poverty in Niagara.

A case of Pepsi sits in a corner of her living room. More bottles of pop are tucked away in a hutch. If food runs short, if her minimum wage, part-time-work paycheck doesn't add up at the grocery store, soft drinks are her backup meal plan.

Every other week, 36-year-old Tanya Willick buys groceries. She makes sure there's fresh food in the fridge when her six-year-old son, Gram, stays for the week. She shares custody with her ex-husband.

On those weeks, they eat well. Ham. Carrots. Potatoes. Fruits and vegetables. It's important to cook good, hearty meals, she says. Sometimes a friend drops off a few groceries. And on the odd Friday night, mom and son might stop in at her father's restaurant in the Falls for fish and chips.

"I know he's getting good food," she says.

The weeks in between, she eats leftovers and saves what she can for Gram's next stay. To save on food, she drinks carbonated meals.

It's not as dire as it sounds, she says.

"I have in my head it doesn't matter," says Tanya. She is not complaining. Not at all. When it's suggested to her that pop isn't really a meal replacement, she smiles and shrugs.

"I don't feel hungry," she says.

"I go to work. I don't need to eat at work. It's a routine. Go to work. Come home, showers go to bed, get up." Simple as that.

On this day, she sits in the living room of her basement apartment in Chippawa and talks about making ends

“
I'm not lazy. I try to work as much as I can. It still doesn't get me any further”

— Tanya Willick

meet. About living below a line we call poverty.

Tanya works four days a week for minimum wage, at a rubber factory in St. Catharines.

Rent, food, Gram's medication for ADHD, cellphone, car insurance and gas to get her to work—they all eat away at her income. She has some help: the before-and-after school care for Gram is fully subsidized, so is a portion of her rent. She has no Internet or cable.

Still, the end-of-month math doesn't often add up.

"It's hard to budget what you don't have," she says.

"I'm not lazy. I try to work as much as I can. It still doesn't get me any farther."

Sometimes, she'll borrow a few bucks from her father, but that's it. "I don't ask anyone else," she says.

Sometimes, she'll get a cash advance off her credit card, but only if she can pay it back by the next paycheck.

Yet in Tanya's life, poverty is about more than dollars. It's about creativity. Humour. And frustration. It's about learning to accept help. Humility. And hope. It's about sometimes having to ask for money and accepting the kindness of others. And it's about understanding the simple priorities of life.

Poverty is all around her. She just chooses to look beyond it.

In her living room, it's in the padded blue sofa and matching arm chair. Someone else's castaways she found on the side of the road.

"It was raining," says Tanya, showing a slight grin.



CHERYL CLOCK QMI Agency Niagara

Tanya Willick, 36, and her six-year-old son, Gram, in their Chippawa apartment. "I want everything for him, but I can't," she says. "I just want him to be happy."

"I just classify that as they were getting washed."

Don't miss our Faces of Poverty project which began last week. You can also comment on Twitter or Facebook using the hashtag #FacesOfPoverty.

It's in the hutch that came from a friend. The veneer-

and-particleboard TV unit, given to her by a man from her last apartment. (She moved because laundry there was costing her \$5 a load.) It's in her son's video

games, second-hand from friends whose children have outgrown them.

It's in her clothes. The jeans she's wearing are the maternity pants she wore when she was pregnant with Gram. "I would have kept

the overalls, but they were a little stretched," she says, laughing.



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Fort Erie's firefighters honoured at awards banquet

➤ The Fort Erie Fire Department held its annual awards banquet Saturday

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Saturday saw some of Fort Erie's bravest men and women honoured for their dedication and service to the community.

The Fort Erie Fire Department held its annual awards banquet at the Fort Erie Leisureplex where firefighters were given awards for five to 40 years of service.

Special guests included MP Rob Nicholson, MPP Wayne Gates, and NRP detective sergeant Lynda Hughes.

In his address to attendees, deputy fire Chief Keith German congratulated all the volunteer firefighters who received awards during the evening.

"When you watch a fire on scene, you realize that everyone does a little bit and that makes a difference," he said.

Without their dedication, and quality of train-

ing, German said Fort Erie's volunteer firefighters couldn't do what they do to save lives.

Each person, no matter how big or small their role is, plays and important part in protecting the community, he said.

"It may not seem so at the time, but (the small things) do matter."

Fire Chief Larry Coplen concluded the evening by thanking the volunteer firefighters for their continued service to the Fort Erie Fire Department.

Award categories and recipients were:

Public Education: Nancy Atkins and Kathleen Bath for 10 years of service.

Central Fire Station: Kyle Johnstone, five years of service; Brian Casey, Matthew Littlewood and Shane McKernan, 10 years of service; Art Drover, 25 years of service and Provincial Long Service Medal, Laird Kinghorn, 40 years of service, Federal Exemplary Service Medal and Provincial Long Service Medal.

Station 3: Jason Butler, five years of service.

Station 4: Travis Armstrong, five years of service; Glenn Teal, 30 years of service, Federal



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

From left, District fire Chief Chris Greaves presents Laird Kinghorn with an award for his 40 years of service as a volunteer for the Fort Erie Fire Department. Beside Laird, his wife Lesley, receives flowers.

Exemplary Service Medal and Provincial Long Service Medal. **Station 5:** David Potter, five years of service. **Station 6:** Jeff Bouchard

and Shane Miner, five years of service; Richard Cooper and Jaquelyn Junkin, 10 years of service.

Fire Prevention and Firefighter: Kevin Winney, 30 years of service, Federal Exemplary Service Medal and Provincial Long Service Medal.

Service award: Larry Coplen, 30 years of service, Federal Exemplary Service Medal and Provincial Long Service Medal; Keith German, 35 years of service and Provincial Long Service Medal.

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Government was aware of 'significant impact' on industry

From Page 1

In a 70-page report of the OLG's modernization plan released Monday, Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk said the government was fully aware that cancellation of the Slots At Racetracks Program, which provided \$347 million to race-track operators and horse owners, horse breeders and others involved in horse racing in 2014, would have a significant impact on Ontario's horse-racing industry.

"OLG developed its modernization plan without sufficiently consulting such stakeholders as municipalities and the horse-racing industry," Lysyk said.

"The profit estimates should have been more realistic, and the abrupt impact on the horse-racing industry could have been mitigated had more people been consulted beforehand."

Martin said the report reiterates what he has been saying all along and that it should be viewed as an "embarrassment" to the Liberals.

"This was done totally unfairly," he said. "They give you with one hand and take away with the other. They clearly have something against the Town of Fort Erie and I have no idea what that would be."

"It's clear that they treated us like mushrooms - they fed us dirt and kept us in the dark."

The mayor hopes the report will re-ignite discussion on taking steps to protect the government's jurisdiction.

"The government should take a step back now and re-look at the error of their ways and work with us to rebuild the horse-racing industry, specifically in Fort Erie," he said.

Meanwhile, Lysyk said the OLG's modernization plan presented an "ambitious best-case scenario" including a significant number of changes designed to raise OLG profits by a total of \$4.6 billion between 2013 and 2018.

Delays, policy changes and the lack of several municipal approvals, she added, resulted

“This was done totally unfairly. They give you with one hand and take away with the other. They have something against the Town of Fort Erie and I have no idea what that would be.”

— Doug Martin

in OLG having to dramatically reduce its profit projections.

As of March 31, OLG lowered its original projection by 48%, or about \$2.2 billion. Lysyk estimated the reduction could be "as much as \$2.8 billion," or about 60% less than forecast.

On Friday, the OLG made a joint announcement with Ontario Horse Racing that tracks with OLG slot facilities, live race dates and five-year funding under the Horse Racing Partnership Plan will have the option for leases with a guaranteed term to 2019.

A guarantee doesn't apply to Fort Erie because it no longer has a slots facility. OLG chairman Philip Olsson said Monday the agency has been working with the horse-racing industry for the past 10 months to "extend leases" and to offer market research and market support.

"I do want to clarify, that while OLG is providing its responsible gambling expertise to the horse racing industry, OLG has no jurisdiction to support or fund responsible gambling controls for horse racing."

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Do You Remember?

Although we did not find out the names of any of the players from last week's photo of the basketball game, we do know that Al Spear was the referee as we can see him clearly in the original photo.

Remember it is never too late to call in about any of our previous Do You Remember photos as that information will always be included in our archives.

This week's photo was taken

at a track and field event, but which school and who is in the photo?

If you know, please call the Fort Erie Historical Museum at 905-894-5322 or e-mail museum@forterie.on.ca

Long Tail ducks come to Fort Erie from Artic

Think Dill. Yes, I am a dill pickle fanatic.

Too much so that it has affected my health.

Cynthia Skinner, a nature friend of mine in Arkansas, sent me an interesting news clipping on the dill plant recently.

That is why I purchased a package of dill seed. We have a little garden plot out back.

I planted in March the seeds in one corner. Here is a portion of that newspaper article by Norm Winter. The caption reads, "Dill for pickles and butterflies too."

Winter said, "... there was



Earl Plato

a black swallowtail invasion on our dill."

He said that some gardeners might look at the dill plant covered in black swallowtail caterpillars and

wonder what to do.

Winter said his goal wasn't only for fresh pickles or harvesting a few sprigs for a salad but he did it for the butterflies.

I know that this occurred much farther south but we have swallowtails in Fort Erie.

Worth a try? I think so.

...

No I didn't see my Long-Tailed ducks very well this year. They were only specks at the mouth of Niagara River. They were well out in Lake Ontario.

But I heard their mating calls very well.

Below is the male Long-

Tail. One beautiful duck.

...

This is our most northern duck.

It comes from the Arctic in winter.

The adult male has a very long black, central tail feathers hence the name.

Note the dark bill with pale white ring near tip.

Once you have heard their active mating calls you won't forget them.

Note: The common name was officially changed from Oldsquaw to Long-tail.

Earl Plato is an author and a Fort Erie resident.



A long tailed duck.

EARL PLATO Special to The Times

opinion page

Adventure documentary shares the story of 11 climbers who perished

Climbing the world's tallest and most dangerous mountain peaks has been in the news recently, following the death of 16 Nepalese guides in an avalanche during the preparation of climbing routes on Mt. Everest.

The Thursday evening film for adults at the Centennial branch of the Fort Erie Public Library, *The Summit*, is an adventure documentary account of the deadliest day on the peak known as K2, when 11 climbers mysteriously perished during the 2008 season.

Hoping to examine different versions of the story to isolate the truth, director Nick Ryan interviewed many of the



Amy Roebuck
Fort Erie Public Library

survivors and their respective teams, and also used news reports and archival footage.

The film will begin at 6:30 p.m. tonight at the Centennial branch, and the Crystal Ridge

branch will host a matinee encore on Tuesday, May 6 at 2 p.m.

There are several books in the library collection about mountain climbing and the tragedies that have haunted even experts in this fierce sport.

The 1996 season on Everest is detailed from several viewpoints: Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer, Beck Weathers' Left for Dead, and Anatoli Boukreev's Climb: tragic ambitions on Everest.

Jamling Tenzing Norgay, the son of perhaps the best-known Sherpa in history, Edmund Hillary's guide and partner, gives his own account of that fateful year in

Touching my Father's Soul.
The National Geographic
Society published *Mountain*
without Mercy.

More recent controversies are explored in Michael Koodas' *High Crimes: the fate of Everest in an age of greed* and *Dark Summit: the true story of Everest's most controversial season* by Nick Heil. For younger fiction readers, Gordon Korman has written a trilogy titled *Everest*, with individual books *The Contest*, *The Climb* and *The Summit*.

Poets of all ages have had the opportunity to read their work aloud during our Poetry and Pizza session last night; now there is a chance to bring

original poems to a poetry writing workshop at the Centennial branch of the library on Wednesday, May 7 at 6:30 p.m. You do not have to have attended Poetry and Pizza to participate in this workshop with published Niagara poets Ron Prickett and Elizabeth Glenny. All poets are welcome.

The Writers' Group that usually meets on the first Wednesday of every month will gather instead on May 13 at 6:30 p.m.

There is still time for teens to grab a friend, select a team and participate in the hockey playoffs—the NHL '14 Xbox tournament at the Centennial branch begins at 10:15 a.m.

this Saturday, May 3. Sign-up is free and the gaming is great. Don't forget to check out the terrific Wii, Xbox 360, PS3 and DS games in the library collection. Available for a week at a time with a library card, it is a good way to try out a game before spending money.

A reminder that the Crystal Ridge and Stevensville branches are now open on Mondays, and the Crystal Ridge branch is open on Friday afternoons. Complete hours are available on the library website, www.fepcl.ca.

Amy Roebuck is the Community Services Coordinator at the Fort Erie Public Library.

Art classes taught by Laurie Blue are available for youth ages six to 12

May, glorious May, bring us
warmth and sun to melt the last
of the ice on Lake Erie.

Please and thank you very much. And as Nature is sporting a greener dress, we at The Sanctuary are keeping busy as well.

The Kiddoodle Kirls Art class will go into its final session before the summer break starting on May 13 (and ends June 17), from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. The six-week class is \$ 67.50 and includes all material.

Kids ages six to 12 will enjoy this class taught by Laurie Blue. Sign up now by emailing artscouncilforterie@gmail.com with "Kiddoodle" in the subject line. Members receive a 10% discount.

We are excited to have Down The Rabbit Hole Theatre Company offering children's theatre classes starting May 21 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. The eight-week class is available for \$80 and is suitable for kids from six to 12 years-old. These classes will develop creativity, collabora-



Nadine Pizzicarola

panels themed Youth in Arts.

The live painting event is organized and sponsored by the Fort Erie Arts Council, along with The Sanctuary Centre for the Arts, and Niagara Christian Community of Schools. The location for the Mural installation is yet to be determined.

The public is welcome to watch and support the event. Contact Michelle at fort-erleartsCouncil@gmail.com for more information.

ration and communication. Register on May 14 from 5 p.m. or 6 p.m. or email downtherabbitholetheatreco@gmail.com. Check out www.facebook.com/downtherabbitholetheatreco for more info.

will be participating in an Art-a-thon at The Sanctuary for National Youth Arts Week on Friday, May 2nd from 4 to 6pm.

Over 50 students from the local high schools will be painting their own designs on mural

The equally beautiful and talented Country singer/ songwriter Chelsea Crites will support Shawnee.

In 2009, Chelsea was nominated as Niagara Rising Star. She has performed at a number of Tailgate parties (prestigious pre-show concerts at Hamilton's very own Copps Coliseum) for acts such as Alan Jackson, Ryan Laird and Johnny Reid to just name a few. She also opened for Canada's own Crystal Shawanda, Jason McCoy and world renowned actor William Shatner.

In the course of her career, Chelsea has shared the stage with many Canadian household names such as Dallas Smith, Bobby Wills and Deric

Rutten,

We are so excited to welcome our friends from the orchestral indie-pop band Soho Ghetto back to Ridgeway on May 9.

This will be the third time they are making their way down from Halifax to play The Sanctuary. I have to say they never fail to captivate their audience with their unique style using indie rhythms and compositions mixed with references to 80s pop.

The result is a diverse mix of anthems and pop gems. Support for this show is coming from the Niagara band Barbudos who will take you to a time when music was made with friends, with minimal resources and whatever equipment was on hand, forging tunes you want to spin and spin and spin again.

14. The public is invited to the open house of the new exhibit for May from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. As it is National Youth Arts Week, we are showing the works of

students from our local high school.

You should see the amazing work and talent that these young artists are displaying. Definitely worth making a trip to The Sanctuary. Refreshments will be available.

Last but not least, I would like to bring awareness to another amazing and very special event on May 17. Deb Malcolm and the ladies from the Grandmother to Grandmother campaign have been working hard to put together a benefit concert featuring the talented Justin Hines and Ash and Bloom with proceeds being donated to the Stephen Lewis Foundation to support the campaign. Please email debmalcolm57@gmail.com for tickets and more information.

For more information on all events, classes and shows at The Sanctuary, please visit www.thesanctuary.org

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Soulmates



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Irene Armstrong, 92, and Harry Armstrong, 94, celebrated 74 years of marriage on Saturday with friends at party held at St. Paul's Anglican Church. They married on April 20, 1940 in Kettby, Ont. Irene says there's no secret to a long and happy marriage. "(Harry) is a really nice guy," she says. "He also makes my coffee in the morning, which is a plus," she joked. Harry said he loves "everything about his wife," and describes her as his soulmate.

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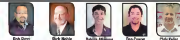


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- 1 Drop off your photo at the Fort Erie Times, 450 Garrison Rd, Fort Erie Ontario L2A 1N2, or Email to myra.robertson@sunmedia.ca. Be sure to include your name, your mom's name and a contact phone number. Entries must be received by May 2nd at 5pm.
- 2 By submitting your photo you are authorizing Sun media to publish your photo in the Fort Erie Times and through their online editions.
- 3 By submitting the photos you are confirming that you have the consent of all subjects of the photos you submit for publishing as per rule #2.
- 4 The top 5 entries as determined by our judges will be entered to win a gift packing from The Atrium Spa valued at \$150.00
- 5 All photos must be submitted by 5pm May 2nd to qualify.
- 6 Employees of Sun Media and their families are not eligible to enter the contest.
- 7 All entries become the property of Sun Media and Sun Media retains the rights to the related entries.

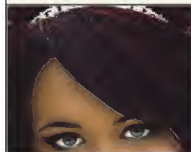
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Please Stoop & Scoop!

Don't make your dog's "business" our business. Dog waste is hazardous.

It is a health hazard:

Leaving your dog's waste in areas where children play exposes kids to parasites such as roundworms, as well as bacterial infections. Dog waste can also transmit diseases to other people's pets.

It is an environmental hazard:

No matter where you live, spring run-off or heavy rainstorms dilute dog waste and wash it into streams and storm sewers. Water from storm sewers generally flows untreated into our river and lake. At these times, dog waste contributes to the environment's bacterial content, polluting beaches and waterways, and degrading the natural environment for fish, wildlife and people.

IF YOUR DOG POOPS



YOU SCOOP

Did you know?:

By leaving your dog's dog waste behind on private or public property, you could be subject to a \$500 fine! By-Law No. 165-2008 states that this is illegal and if you get "caught in the act" you will be ticketed.

Find out more:

- On our website at www.forterie.on.ca
- Call us at 905-871-1600 for more information



THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2014

NOTICE OF NOMINATION FOR OFFICE Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as amended

NOTICE is hereby given to the municipal electors of the Town of Fort Erie that commencing January 2, 2014 nominations may be made for the following offices by filing the prescribed nomination papers and nomination fee in the Office of the Clerk of the Town of Fort Erie:

- Mayer (1 to be elected)
Regional Councillor (1 to be elected)
Councillor Ward 1 (1 to be elected)
Councillor Ward 2 (1 to be elected)
Councillor Ward 3 (1 to be elected)
Councillor Ward 4 (1 to be elected)
Councillor Ward 5 (1 to be elected)
Councillor Ward 6 (1 to be elected)

Trustees, District School Board of Niagara (English Public School)
(1 to be elected for the combined areas of Fort Erie and Port Colborne)

Trustees, Niagara Catholic District School Board (English Separate School)
(1 to be elected for combined the area of Fort Erie, Port Colborne and Wainfleet)

Nominations for the following School Boards having jurisdiction in the Town of Fort Erie shall be filed with the Clerk of the City of Welland:

Trustees, Conseil scolaire Viamonde (French Public School)
(1 to be elected for the combined area of Fort Erie, Niagara Falls, Pelham, Port Colborne, Thorold, Wainfleet and Welland.)

Trustees, Conseil scolaire de district catholique centre-sud (French Separate School)
(1 to be elected for the combined area of Fort Erie, Pelham, Port Colborne, Wainfleet and Welland.)

A nomination form must be signed by the candidate and may be filed with the Clerk in person or by an agent from January 2, 2014 to September 11, 2014, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or on **Nomination Day, September 12, 2014, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.** The prescribed nomination filing fee of \$200 for Mayor and \$100 for Regional Councillor, Councillor or School Trustees, must accompany the nomination form. This fee is payable in cash, by debit card, certified cheque or money order made payable to the Town of Fort Erie. The nomination form must be certified by the Clerk before any person becomes a certified candidate for the office to which he or she is nominated. Candidates for French School Board Trustees must file the nomination paper with the Clerk of the City of Welland.

A candidate must have registered by filing the nomination form and before he/she expends any funds on a campaign or accepts any contributions.

All reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that candidates and electors with disabilities are able to receive information and copies of election documents in a format that takes into account their disability. The format may be agreed upon between the requester and the Town Clerk.

All enquiries to the Clerk/Returning Officer. Further information and forms are available on the Town's website at www.town.forterie.on.ca

DATED AT FORT ERIE this 8th day of February, 2014.

Caroleen J. Kott, A.M.C.T.,
Town Clerk/Returning Officer
Town of Fort Erie
905-871-1600, Ext. 2211
e-mail: ckott@forterie.on.ca

Cette notice est disponible en français

Mother's Day

Pamper your Mom this Mother's day

Cook her breakfast

Wake up early to serve Mom her favorite brunch. Kids can pitch in by creating a fruit salad, setting the table, and decorating or making a special centerpiece. Up the ante with hand-designed plates or coffee mugs (made to your local craft shop or try this kit).

Give her flowers

Sure it's cliché, but doesn't mom deserve some flowers as beautiful as she is? Let kids help pick out a floral bouquet or hanging plant for the porch, or select some colorful blooms from your garden and tie them up with some ribbon. Kids can also make flowers out of pipe cleaners and colorful tissue paper.

Be mother's little helpers

You know what Mom would really love? If everyone pitched in around the house. Make coupons for household chores or errands and don't let them go unused. Or let Mom sleep in and surprise her with a spotless house when she gets out of bed.

A spa treatment

Every woman loves a trip to the spa. Pick out specific services you know Mom would love (a massage, a body polish, a deluxe mani/pedi) from your local spa or salon menu or get her a basic gift certificate for her favorite place. Make sure to arrange for a sister or help with daily tasks so Mom can enjoy her treatment without any stress. To get the kids involved, you could also set up an at-home spa where little ones put cucumbers on her eyes, apply homemade face masks, draw her a bubble bath, or give a foot massage.

Homemade treats

Does mom have a sweet tooth? Round up the kids before Mother's Day to help bake and decorate cupcakes, brownies, or make chocolate-covered strawberries or pretzels.

Make a scrapbook

Compile family photos, letters, mementos, and fridge artwork. Let kids help design the cover and decorate pages.

Have a picnic

Head to the park (or the beach if you're lucky) with a blanket, coolers full of drinks, sandwiches, snacks, and items for a fun family activity like Frisbee or a game of catch. Usually mom does the planning, packing, and clean-up, so this time let her sit back and leave care of everything.

Make a jewelry box

Pick up a hinged wooden box at your local craft store and decorate with paint, glitter glue, charms, shells, or whatever you think best represents Mom.

Embrace your green thumb

Get your hands dirty and have fun with a group project. Plant flowers, fruits, or vegetables that Mom will be able to enjoy year after year. If you don't have a yard or want an easier project, plant her favorite seeds in a hand-painted pot.

Make her feel like a lady

Put together some beautiful soaps, lotions, candles, perfume, or even a pretty journal so she can take a moment out of her busy Mom schedule to be with her own thoughts.



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May is National Leave a Legacy Month

Free workshop teaches public about wills, estates and charitable giving after death

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

It may be difficult to do, but Tamara Coleman-Lowrie said everyone should have an end-of-life plan.

"A strange thing that bothers my mind is less than 10% of Canadians have a will," Coleman-Lowrie, the executive director of the United Way of South Niagara, said.

"That is bad because you want your final wishes to be carried out. If you don't put it down in writing, those wishes may not be carried out to your desires," she added.

Coleman-Lowrie said

Ask the Experts: Wills, Estates and Charitable Giving

Niagara Falls
May 6, LaMarsh Room,
4848 Victoria Ave.

Fort Erie
May 13, Garrison Place,
373 Garrison Rd.

Grimsby
May 15, Grimsby Public
Library, 18 Carnegie
Ln.

Welland
May 22, City of Welland

Community Room, 60
East Main St.

Niagara-on-the-Lake
May 28, NOTL Library,
10 Anderson Ln.

Port Colborne
May 29, Port Colborne
Museum, 286 King St.

St. Catharines
June 4, Ina Grafton
Gage Village, 413
Linwell Rd.

All workshops are free
and run from 3 p.m. to
5 p.m.

people can also leave a lasting legacy after their life has ended and the Leave A Legacy program can help.

"You can designate something to your community and be proud knowing when something does happen and you're at the end of your life, you can make a difference after the fact."

Leave a Legacy is a national public awareness program about sharing the importance of having a will and the benefits that can impact a person's estate through charity to be able to give a gift at end of life, Coleman-Lowrie said.

The program educates the public about how to make

charitable donations after death.

"We work with insurance companies, lawyers and other professionals to teach unique strategies that people can use that will be right for them," Coleman-Lowrie said.

"You can leave a portion of an RRSP. You can also purchase an insurance policy outright to make a huge donation. You also receive a tax receipt for the premiums

or the final gift," she added.

May is National Leave a Legacy Month, and there are seven workshops that will be held in Niagara to give the public a chance to ask experts including lawyers, accountants, and insurance professionals questions.

The free workshop is called Ask the Experts: Wills, Estates and Charitable Giving and one is planned in Fort Erie on May 13 at Garrison Place from 3 p.m.

to 5 p.m.

"This isn't just about charitable giving," Coleman-Lowrie said.

"It's about stressing the importance of a will and managing your wealth. People can come and ask any questions they want."

For more information call Coleman-Lowrie at 905-735-0490 or e-mail tamara@southniagara.unitedway.ca

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Willick relies on help from mom and Salvation Army

From Page 2

Her black sweater with white blouse collar is a hand-me-down from a friend.

If Gram has new clothes, they're likely a gift from Tanya's mom. His winter coat, boots, hat and mitts came from the Salvation Army's Niagara Orchard Community Church donation drive.

And although he thinks the big guy in red brought him Christmas gifts, Santa was otherwise known as the Sally Ann.

"I want everything for



I want everything for him, but I just can't. I just want him to be happy."

— Tanya Willick

him, but I can't," she says. "I just want him to be happy."

With that, she stands up and smiles. "Come see my

bedroom," she says.

Tanya walks down a narrow hallway, past the kitchen, first room on the right is her bedroom.

In one corner, there's a TV sitting on top of four all-season tires, stacked neatly one on top of each other. When the winter tires come off her 2003 Neon — her current source of financial frustration — they'll replace the all-seasons as bedroom décor.

Yet, the piece de resistance is the bedroom fixture that prompts her friends to giggle and ask, "Do you really sleep in it?"

— a fire engine red Lightning McQueen bed complete with matching sheets.

It was her son's. She got it in the divorce, and when Gram outgrew it she claimed it and saved up enough to buy him an Ikea bunk.

Gram's bedroom is at the end of the hall. Books stacked floor to ceiling are second-hand. Tanya found the football-shaped toy box beside the dumpster at her old apartment. And a large cardboard box-turned-playhouse was an acquisition from work.

When she has her son, Tanya works regular 30-hour-a-week shifts. The weeks she doesn't, she'll work extra hours if they're

offered to her. But that doesn't happen too often.

See Page 25



Fort Erie Summer Service Update

Effective April 29 until August 30

NEW! Fort Erie to Niagara Falls, Monday-Saturday

Walmart, Fort Erie	Niagara Square (Arrive)	Niagara Square (Depart)	Stanley/Dunn	Main/Ferry	Bridge St. Terminal
7 a.m.	7:20 a.m.	7:30 a.m.	7:38 a.m.	7:41 a.m.	7:50 a.m.
9 a.m.	9:20 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	9:38 a.m.	9:41 a.m.	9:50 a.m.
11 a.m.	11:20 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	11:38 a.m.	11:41 a.m.	11:50 a.m.
5 p.m.	5:20 p.m.	5:30 p.m.	5:38 p.m.	5:41 p.m.	5:50 p.m.
7 p.m.	7:20 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	7:38 p.m.	7:41 p.m.	7:50 p.m.

NEW! Niagara Falls to Fort Erie, Monday-Saturday

Bridge St. Terminal	Main/Ferry	Stanley/Dunn	Niagara Square (Arrive)	Niagara Square (Depart)	Walmart, Fort Erie
8 a.m.	8:10 a.m.	8:13 a.m.	8:21 a.m.	8:30 a.m.	8:50 a.m.
10 a.m.	10:10 a.m.	10:13 a.m.	10:21 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:50 a.m.
4 p.m.	4:10 p.m.	4:14 p.m.	4:21 p.m.	4:30 p.m.	4:50 p.m.
6 p.m.	6:10 p.m.	6:14 p.m.	6:21 p.m.	6:30 p.m.	6:50 p.m.

Connections can be made to and from Welland at Niagara Square. Connections to and from St. Catharines can be made at the Bridge St. Terminal.

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New partnership bodes well for racetrack

➤ New horse racing division will help provide sustainable future for horse racing industry

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

A newly formed partnership could ensure horse racing in Fort Erie for years to come.

The Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation, the provincial government and the Ontario Racing Commission announced Friday that they have teamed up to form the Ontario Horse Racing Division to provide a sustainable future for the horse racing industry.

OLG spokesperson Tony Bitonti said the announcement means all parties involved aim to "bring horse racing into the provincial gaming strategy."

The partnership will give racetracks with OLG slots facilities, live race dates and five-year funding under the Horse Racing Partnership Plan, an option for leases with a guaranteed term to 2019.

But that five-year lease

agreement doesn't apply to Fort Erie because it no longer has a slots facility.

"Right now, there is no possibility (of a five-year lease agreement for Fort Erie) because it doesn't have a slots facility," Bitonti said.

"As part of our modernization plan, we had to look at all of our properties. We did determine around the border facility that there was too much product (too many gaming facilities) in the Fort Erie and Niagara Falls area," he added.

With a casino a short distance down the Queen Elizabeth Way in Niagara Falls, Bitonti said the slots facility at Fort Erie's racetrack was no longer viable. Changes in the last decade, such as the decline in the U.S. dollar and a smoking ban have also contributed to a decrease in visitors to Fort Erie's slots-at-racetrack program before it closed in 2012.

Other racetracks that will not have a guaranteed five-year lease agreement include tracks in Windsor and Sarnia, where slots-at-racetrack programs were also closed.

What will encourage traffic at the Fort Erie Race Track and other tracks across Ontario is the OLG's support through

increased marketing initiatives, research and responsible gambling programs.

Bitonti said the OLG will publicize and cross-promote horse racing in casinos across the province.

"For all those years we've had slots-at-racetrack programs, horse racing was horse racing and the slots were the slots. But we're doing something different this time and working together," Bitonti said.

Televisions and digital signs will be used in gaming facilities in Niagara Falls and across the province to promote horse racing at Ontario's racetracks.

"We want to make sure anyone in our gaming facilities knows that racing is happening," Bitonti said.

"We're also doing research to find out what people like about horse racing to attract new customers," he added.

The OLG and the Horse Racing division will "work within current provincial and federal laws to explore new horse-themed lottery and gaming and wagering products."

John Snobelen, interim director of the Ontario Horse Racing division, said there will likely be a few "bumps in the

road" over the next five years while the Ontario Horse Racing division works to sustain the horse racing industry.

"There will be a lot of adjustments we need to make. But I think this is something other jurisdictions wouldn't," Snobelen said.

said.

"In five years, we will have a bigger, more robust racing industry to attract an international audience."

Snobelen believes horse racing "is an important element in the province" that's impor-

tant to preserve.

"There are many people in the horse racing industry with a strong passion for what they do. I think this partnership reflects that."

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

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Town of Fort Erie considers land deal

The Town of Fort Erie met in closed sessions over the course of three weeks to consider purchasing a portion of land from the owner of the Fort Erie Race Track.

Mayor Doug Martin said council has been meeting in closed session to discuss the acquisition of some land for industrial purposes near the Fort Erie Race Track but he couldn't comment further due to confidentiality agreements.

Fort Erie's Economic Development and Tourism Corporation general manager Jim Thibert said he aware of the deal.

"Yes, I do know what the deal is but it's constrained to closed sessions to protect

the rate-payers as we proceed with a land deal," he said.

Thibert said there has been some confusion that the land deal involves the Fort Erie Race Track. The industrial lands the town hopes to acquire are owned by Nordic Gaming, the same company that owns the racetrack.

"As the head of the Fort Erie Live Racing Consortium, I know the land we're dealing with has nothing to do with the racetrack or the racetrack property we lease."

Thibert said more information will become available to the public in the coming months.

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Speedway season opener rained out

Too much rain overnight Friday and too little time during the day Saturday to dry out the track was anything but a winning combination for Merrittville Speedway.

Opening night for the 63rd racing season at the Thorold track was cancelled shortly before noon after it became apparent the dirt track wouldn't be dry in time for the first heats of the night.

"If it was 95 degrees, it might have been different but it wasn't" said Jim Irvine, the track's

public relations director.

Wind was also a factor in the decision to pull the plug on a three-division program featuring racing in the super sprint, sportsman and modified 358 divisions.

Opening night was only one of two visits the sprint cars will be making this season.

Irvine said with next Saturday night's schedule already set, the super sprints will return some time later in the season.

"The sprints will be rescheduled," he said.

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Students put their environmental knowledge to the test

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Fort Erie Secondary School's Charmaine Holland couldn't wait to get her hands dirty at the 7th annual Niagara Envirothon last Wednesday at Stevensville Conservation Area.

Holland was one of more than 60 youth from eight Niagara high schools that teamed up to compete in the Niagara Envirothon. The event tested their environmental smarts for the chance to represent their community at the 2014 Ontario Envirothon Championships which will be held from May 12 to 15 at Fleming College in Lindsay, Ont. Schools that competed in Wednesday's Envirothon included E.L. Crossley, FESS, Lakeshore, Ridgeway Crystal Beach, Sir Winston Churchill, Stamford Collegiate, St. Michael and Westlane.

Holland wanted to take

part in the Envirothon because it "promotes awareness for the environment" and ways that people can protect it.

"It's interesting to learn about wildlife and their habitat and how closely both are related to the environment," she said.

The Niagara Envirothon "gets students out and learning about different aspects of the environment," Sarah Gawley, of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, said.

The Envirothon is a hands-on environmental problem-solving competition for students, which allows them to learn about possible environmental careers.

"This year, the competitors are learning about local sustainable agriculture," Gawley said. The students spent the day training and completing testing in five



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

From left, Fort Erie Secondary School students Charmaine Holland, Louis Harris and Makayla James examined animals. They analyzed animals as a requirement of the Niagara Envirothon they competed in last Wednesday, at the Stevensville Conservation Area in Stevensville.

natural resource categories including aquatic ecology, forestry, wildlife, soils and land use and current environmental issues.

The Niagara Envirothon is

organized by the NPACA in partnership with Land Care Niagara, Niagara Falls Nature Club, Niagara Restoration Council and Forests Ontario.

This year, Gawley said Land Care Niagara is offering an Envirothon Scholarship worth \$1,000 to a student pursuing an environmental post-secondary

degree. All students who participated in the Envirothon are eligible to apply.

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A quilt in honour of Earth Day



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Peace Bridge Public School students created a large quilt with an Earth Day inspired theme last week. Each square will be photographed and the pictures will be on display at the school. From left are (front) Front, Wolf Phelps, Zachary Organ, Declan House, Cici Hidalgo, Rachel Dobbie, Enrique Rodriguez, (back) Chris Pidgeon, River Kenworthy, Jake Taylor, Grace Kenworthy, Maddie Taylor, Eden Wilsonne and Lars Gagnon.

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Community clean up



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

The Ridgeway Business Improvement Area Association and its volunteers spent Friday morning cleaning up downtown Ridgeway in an effort to beautify the community.

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Ice boom removed

The ice boom was removed this week due to favourable weather conditions.

A New York Power Authority crew opened the boom's 22 spans on Tuesday.

Last year, the boom opening began on March 25. The latest date for opening the boom was on May 3, 1971.

The ice boom is owned and operated by the New York Power Authority and Ontario Power Generation. The ice boom permits a formation of stable ice cover under which Niagara River flows can freely pass.

The International Joint Commission authorizes the use of the boom. The International Niagara Board of Control oversees the installation, operation and removal of the ice boom.

The annual installation of the boom reduces ice accumulation that interferes with hydro-electric power production and can cause flooding and damage to shore properties.

Cop charged with fraud

A police officer from St. Catharines has been charged with fraud.

After obtaining information in January, the Hamilton Police fraud branch began investigating a 15-year veteran officer for fraudulent submissions of benefit claims.

As a result of the investigation, an arrest was made April 17.

Jason Howard, 43, of St. Catharines, is charged with fraud, valued at \$5,000.

The officer, a sergeant assigned to Division 3 of Hamilton Police Service, has been suspended from duty with pay.

He was released on a promise to appear and is scheduled to return to court May 20.

Hazardous waste drop off

Residents can drop off their household hazardous waste on May 24 at the John L. Gibson Operation Centre, 1818 Petit Rd from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Items that can be accepted include antifreeze, batteries, bleach, cleaners, medications, paint, solvents and thinners, pool chemicals, gasoline and motor oil.

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Niagara Health System seeks communications specialist

Alan Benner
QMI Agency Niagara

The Niagara Health System's search for a senior project communications specialist is an

indication that progress is quickly being made, plan-

ning for a new south Niagara hospital.

Brady Wood, the health system's chief communications and external relations officer, said the NHS is advertising for a communications specialist to lead community engagement initiatives related to the planning of a new hospital.

"It's a pretty critical role," Wood said.

"I think the part about us hiring this person very

much demonstrates that there's a lot of planning that's already happening. There's obviously lot's going on. We're full steam ahead on the planning. We haven't slowed down in any way and we're committed to what I hope will be an ambitious timeline to get our work done."

Wood said the new recruit will develop plans for regular interaction with all the communities being served by the new site, talking to people about their ideas and concerns about the facility, and finding ways to address them.

"People maybe opposed to the plan, but we have a lot in common on wanting the best care for

Niagara. I would look at it as if this part of our plan can't change, how do we address your concerns," he said.

"I think it's very much about dialogue. At the base I think we all have the exact same values. We want world-class care for Niagara to continue in the new model, and how we make that happen is what we'll be talking about."

The communications specialist will also be "well synced in with the planning team the whole way around," Wood said.

"A perfect synchrony is really critical for this to all work properly."

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BARBARA HORNING Special to The Times
Volunteers spent Saturday cleaning up downtown Bridgeburg and on the coal docks along the water's edge.

Chamber welcomes new volunteer board



GREATER FORT ERIE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE Special to The Times
The Greater Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce recently inducted its new volunteer board of directors for the 2014-2015 term. From left are Adam Lampman, treasurer Patrick Baichoo, vice-president Gerry Brisson, Trent Matthews, president Rick Phibbs, Andrew Harber, Steve Helwig, secretary Rebecca Nigh, Jonathan George, and past president Dean Demizio.

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Discover the past through pottery and other items long forgotten

➤ Archaeologist Gregory Braun will discuss history behind a collection of old pottery and pipes

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Archaeologists can tell a lot about people from the past just by looking at the objects they left behind.

For those interested in learning more about pottery, pipes and other items long since forgotten, Gregory Braun, a course instructor at the University of Toronto, will share his insight into a collection of items found in the Fort Erie Historical Museum's own collection.

"(Gregory) is an archaeologist who worked for Archaeology Services Incorporated, which has done digs in Fort Erie," said Andrea Wilson, curator of the Fort Erie Historical Museum.

"In particular, Gregory has participated in digs at the

Peace Bridge site."

Braun will offer his insight and knowledge into the museum's collection on May 8 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. during a free presentation in the meeting room at the Peace Bridge Authority.

"In our collection at the museum, we have millions of items," Wilson said.

Last year, Braun took some artifacts from the museum's collection to study them. His research will be highlighted in his PhD thesis which he is currently working on.

"The work that he will be presenting during his lecture is part of his thesis," Wilson said.

"When he came last year, I asked him to come back and share his work," she added.

Wilson said anyone interested in history will not want to miss Braun's presentation.

"(Gregory) will bring a slide show presentation, some objects and quite a bit of material with him."

Seating for Braun's presentation is limited so individuals interested in attending are asked to call ahead and reserve a seat. For more

information, contact Wilson at 905-894-5322.

Wilson also encourages the public to visit the museum's Mewintha gallery at the Buffalo-Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority, which honours the First Peoples who lived at that site. The gallery features tools and weapons which date back 11,000 years.

The gallery is on display

Who: Archaeologist Gregory Braun.

What: Will give a presentation on old artifacts from the Fort Erie Historical Museum's collection.

When: Thursday, May 8 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Where: Meeting Room, second floor of the Peace Bridge Authority, 100 Queen St., Fort Erie.

Why: To share the history of some of the items found in the museum's collection.

Mondays through
Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.



ANDREA WILSON Special to The Times

Items such as this pottery will be discussed in archaeologist Gregory Braun's lecture on May 8 at the Peace Bridge Authority from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

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Norton lead Iroquois into battle

➤ **Brian Thomas shares the life of John Norton during the War of 1812 in his second part of a two-part story**

Brian Thomas
Special to The Times

Returning to the Grand River from his trip to Tennessee, there is talk about war between the British and the Americans. Early in the Spring of 1812, Sir Isaac Brock arrived at the Grand River to enlist the help of the Haudenosaunee.

He was met with a cold response because there were still many unresolved issues between Six Nations and their British fathers, but he procured the help of John Norton in negotiations.

Brock leaves discouraged on his way to Detroit.

On July 12, 1812, the American forces under the command of General William Hull start an invasion of Canada.

Norton could only muster approximately 40-50 Iroquois warriors who joined Brock at the Battle of Detroit.

He had a small part in the surrender of Detroit. His military leadership finds him in charge of a larger group of Indigenous Allies in the battles along the Niagara River.

The victory at Queenston Heights was a major high point in his military career.

At the battle of Queenston Heights, Norton and approximately 100 warriors, including young John Brant (son of Joseph), also named, Ahyonwachis, traveled a considerable distance along the western road in Queenston, making it an easier ascent to the top of the escarpment.

Reaching their destina-

tion, a wooded area on the cliff top, they planned down the American troops, until Major-General Sheaffe his regiment, and reinforcements from Chippewa forced their surrender.

One week after the battle, Sheaffe honoured Norton by commissioning him as, "Captain of the Confederate Indians", (the same title received by Joseph Brant during the American Revolution).

The Captain and his warriors spent the winter at Fort Erie, returning to the Grand River the following spring.

Not long after, Norton finds himself at Fort George, where the British suffered a terrible loss.

One half of the Fort lay in ruins. The immediate beach and hillside was littered with bodies from

both sides.

The British abandon the burning fort and retreat to Stoney Creek, where John Norton is quoted saying, "I was rejoiced to find that the General agreed to stop at the Forty Mile Creek with the whole army—as I yet had hopes that God would favour us with an opportunity to avenge ourselves upon our Enemy for the Blood of our friends that had fallen on the plains of Fort George, on whose lifeless bodies we had turned our Backs. The Position here gave me the most flattering prospect of a glorious issue to a contest, should the enemy have overtaken us."

Journal of John Norton. Publication of the Champlain Society, 1970.

See Page 95

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Coming Soon: We will be having our KATKWENYES Learning Centre open house coming this June. Please join for food and fun while we open our new classrooms, more information to follow. Everyone Welcome!



Ardina Lever
Literacy Coordinator
Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre
796 Buffalo rd, Fort Erie
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Local youth to compete in provincial gymnastics competition

➤ Abby Bolton and Morgan Tartaglia set to compete in Eastern Canadian Gymnastic Championships

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Years of training and hard work have finally paid off for two local youth. Fort Erie's Abby Bolton, 16, and Morgan Tartaglia,

15, have qualified to compete at the Eastern Canadian Gymnastic Championships from May 10 to 12 at Durham College in Oshawa, Ont.

"Not everybody gets this opportunity," Bolton and Tartaglia's coach, Gillian Barton, said. "Some kids work throughout their career as gymnasts and they never get this opportunity."

Barton trains both teenagers out of Quantum Niagara Gymnastics Club in Niagara Falls. Bolton and Tartaglia will compete in the Eastern Canada Championships with club member Jennifer

Harrigan. Bolton is looking forward to competing at the championships in May because she enjoys performing routines.

"It's cool—the idea of flipping through the air," she said. "It's especially fun to show your routines. Floor is the most enjoyable because that's where you really get to show what you've got."

Tartaglia said she loves to compete because it gives her an opportunity to highlight her strength.

Barton said both Bolton and Tartaglia "have had an amazing year." "Most of the qualifiers

they competed in, they ranked pretty high," she said.

Bolton qualified for the Eastern Canadians by placing second overall in Level 7 ages 14/15 at the Ontario Championships. Bolton placed first on floor, second on bars and seventh on vault and beam.

Tartaglia competed at the Ontario Championships, competing in the Level 7

ages 14/15 division. She finished first overall after placing first on bars, third on vault, fifth on the beam and sixth on floor.

Between balancing school and a social life, both teenagers train more than 15 hours a week.

"Gymnasts tend to be great time managers because they have to prioritize school, and still be able to have great results," Barton said.

"I think they'll go great (at the Eastern Championships)," she added.

"They're great girls—quite a pleasure to coach. They're good students on top of it, and they tend to work hard at anything they take on."

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



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SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times
Niagara Acro Cats gymnasts Morgan Tartaglia and Abby Bolton have qualified for the Eastern Canadian championships

Norton fought in many battles including the Siege of Fort Erie

From Page 33

During the rest of the war, Norton fought in the battle of Stoney Creek, Lundy's Lane, the Siege of Fort Erie, and the Battle of Chippewa, where he comes up against his Seneca brothers, led by Red Jacket (Sagoyewatha), and Farmer's Brother.

Peace was granted on December 24 at the signing of the Treaty of Ghent. Word did not reach Upper Canada until Jan. 8, 1815.

Norton re-married a young Delaware woman c.16 years of age, named Catherine, (Karighwaycagh).

In 1815, they traveled to Britain along with a son, Ishonakawa, from a jactious marriage to an Inroquois woman.

John and his family return to Upper Canada in 1816 during which, he became the owner of a large farm overlooking the Grand River.

This developed a new sense of dedication to his land and agriculture. Unfortunately, in 1823 his young wife Catherine, was proven guilty of sexual misconduct. Resentful, John fought and killed his wife's lover, in what was purported, the last pistol duel in Canada.

Norton's confrontation resulted in charges of manslaughter, and a fine of 25 pounds.

Discouraged with his life, his love for farming dies, he fled to Arkansas. John's last recorded correspondence was a letter to his nephew in 1826.

Many historians believe that he died alone in 1831, in Laredo, which was at the time, a part of Mexico.

What a tragic ending to a legendary Niagara frontiersman, missionary, British officer, and Mohawk war chief, who fought in almost every major battle on the Niagara frontier; a man who dedicated his life to God, country and his native people.

Today, in Brantford Ontario, at the church of Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks, established by Joseph Brant in 1785, eight beautiful stained glass windows can be found depicting scenes from the history of The Six Nations.

One in particular, portrays the distribution of bibles, which John Norton transported from England in 1806.

At the bottom of the window these words are found: "Let us strictly adhere to what our Lord has transmitted to us in the Holy Scriptures, that thereby the unbelievers may know the love we bear the commandments of God".

I dedicate this story to all the peoples of

The Six Nations on both sides of the Niagara River, and to all the other Indigenous Allies and Western Tribes, who fought in the War of 1812.

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Bouquet for those who cleaned up the community

A bouquet for the residents in the adult community in Ridgeway who volunteered last Wednesday as part of Earth Week to not only clean up their community, but the surrounding areas of Prospect and Thunder Bay Roads. It was greatly appreciated.

Brick for a brick giver

A brick for the person who sent a brick to someone else and called them a liar. It was a vile message and it was despicable to hide behind anonymity. Shame on you!

Brick for people who avoid taxes

A brick for tax evaders that retire early at 55 and work under the table, playing no income tax for their earnings. This tax evasion is theft and the people that do this should be prosecuted for what they do.

Bouquet for a kind man who paid for coffee

A bouquet for the gentleman who generously donated his Tim Hortons gift card to pay for coffee and donuts for residents who were cleaning up roadsides in Ridgeway last

Wednesday for Earth week. Thank you!

Bouquet for dog rescuers

A bouquet for the people who stopped to help me save my

dog on April 16 on Netherby Road. It was amazing to see so many strangers come together and help the little dog in the field. You didn't have to stop to help, but you did. It was cold, wet and rather unsafe, but we didn't give up. Those of you who stopped to help, have restored my faith in humanity. It was amazing to witness. Thank you very much.

Brick for neighbours

A brick for the neighbours who didn't help an injured rabbit in their yard. I believe they even threw the rabbit over

the fence because they didn't want to help it. Someone else called for help for the rabbit and it received care, but unfortunately the animal died. I just wanted to say shame on the people who didn't help the rabbit even though they saw it was suffering.

Brick for people who complain

A brick for everyone who complains when they can't find anything better to do. Don't you realize that people don't want to hear you complain about everything day?

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Junior B league appealing rejection of reclassification bid

Bernd Franke
QMI Agency Niagara

Ontario's 27 junior B hockey teams, including the Niagara Falls Canucks and the Fort Erie Meteors, aren't taking "no" for an answer.

Despite the rejection of their bid to be reclassified as a Junior A league, the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League remains hopeful it can begin competing at the higher level when the 2014-15 season starts in

September.

The decision, which was reached by the Ontario Hockey Association (OHA) last week, is already being appealed to the Ontario Hockey Federation, the sport's governing body in the province. The federation could take anywhere from a week to a month to investigate the merits of the appeal before deciding whether a full hearing is required.

"It's still possible it can happen in time before the new season. That certainly is

our hope," said Al MacNevin, a member of the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League (GOJHL) transition team spearheading the reclassification bid and the junior Canadians director of player personnel and scouting.

He said the seven-member transition team, which represents franchises in the Golden Horseshoe, Midwestern and Western conferences, wasn't surprised that the OHA's board of directors rejected the

reclassification request.

"We knew there was a good chance they would. We anticipated that we would be appealing to the OHE," said MacNevin, who attended the hearing in Dundas. "In his decision, the OHA said having two junior A leagues in the province would 'not be in the best interest of hockey.'"

"The Junior B category is a huge part of what the OHA is, has been, and what it can be moving forward. Our junior B programs offer tremendous opportunities for players and coaches to advance to higher levels within the game," OHA executive director Scott Farley said in a news release.

"The GOJHL is arguably the best junior B league in Canada and they have provided amazing opportunities to players and coaches in the communities they represent."

While GOJHL maintained its calibre of play is on par with junior A and argued it was tiered of developing local players only to lose them to the tier 2 Ontario Junior Hockey League, the OHA found "there was little to no" supporting information to support reclassification.

"Their rationale was we didn't put up a good argument," MacNevin said.

As well as appealing the decision, the GOJHL will be challenging a "collaborative"

agreement between the OHA and the 22-team tier 2 Junior A level. MacNevin said the two-year agreement recognizes the Ontario Junior Hockey League as the only A100 in the province.

"They negotiated that without consulting the junior B and junior C teams," said MacNevin, adding he couldn't remember the agreement going to the full membership.

He said the junior B and C teams, which make up about 80% of the member clubs in the OHA, "never would have approved such an agreement."

"The playing field is not level," he said.

The GOJHL wants to be reclassified because it considers itself on par with the tier 2 Ontario Junior Hockey League in everything but classification.

"We realize it's only a letter, but we do get players who feel they have to move up to that level. We're doing it mostly to develop our local talent to the next level and keep them here, transition team member Joe Daniels, general manager of the St. Thomas Stars, told QMI Agency when the bid was first made.

MacNevin said the junior B league's desire to emerge from tier 2's shadow didn't just happen overnight. He said the "most recent anger" over the disparity between the two leagues has been

brewing for the past five years.

MacNevin referred to appeals: Junior Ontario Canadians lost when the team questioned player transfer fees charged by junior A teams. In one case, Welland released a player's rights to a tier 2 club for \$1,500, only to pay \$4,000 to get that player back 11/2 seasons later. Welland's appeal was denied by the OHA, leaving the team with the perspective that the OHA tends to favour tier 2 over the junior B teams in the province.

The GOJHL was created in 2007 with the merging of the Golden Horseshoe, Midwestern and Western junior B leagues.

In a remarkable show of solidarity, all 27 GOJHL teams agreed to apply individually for reclassification.

A OHF hearing the appeal is not automatic. Executive director Phillip McKee said a three-member independent panel will only consider an appeal if an investigation of the case has merit.

OHF staff could take "anywhere from a week to four weeks" to complete the investigation and recommend whether a hearing should be held.

"It all depends on the material supporting the appeal. Thirty pages of documentation would take much longer than a couple of pages," he said.

bernd.franke@qmiagency.ca

HALLELUJAH – IT'S SPRING!

Birds singing, buds on trees ... this can only mean one thing – it's spring! Well, actually, it means 2 things. It's spring and creating outside begins. Whether this is a little bit of work or a lot of work is up to you. The not-so-secret secret is to plan. Plan well and gardening can be a pleasant diversion enjoying being outdoors. Don't plan well and gardening can be a chore to try to escape from.

To help with planning, whether you're starting early this year or are new to gardens, we're going to offer tips and suggestions... all with the goal of making gardening pleasant.

Container and patio gardens, native plant materials, perennials and xeriscaping (gardening that reduces or eliminates watering) are only a few among the many options you can consider. Though I've gardened for eons, a trip to my local garden centre is always my first task, one I look forward to and relish. Coffee in hand, a "walk about" is a must – not to buy – but to get ideas about what plants and colour combos to consider, learn about new varieties and pick up some pointers about design elements. I do this because I will never know it all, never "finish" my garden ... gardening will always be a journey, never a destination ... and that is what beckons me (and millions of other gardeners) year after year.

While it's a tad cool yet to plant flowers (although cold hardy ones like pansies will work hard to bring cheer wherever they're plopped), the lawn also deserves some attention; after all, it serves partly to play a supporting role to the trees, shrubs and flowers that have a home at your home. So let's begin here. A healthy lawn has deeper roots able to take water from deep in the ground, will help minimize weeds, is better able to resist disease and stress; and can help the environment.

Your lawn should be fed 4 times a year – early and late spring, late summer and fall. Use holidays (Easter, Victoria Day, Labour Day, Halloween) to help tug your memory. Here are a few tips to get you started:

- Clear debris and rake – your lawn will instantly look better
- Feed your lawn with fertilizer to help strengthen the roots
- Overseed with good quality grass seed if needed (how can you tell if it needs it? If your grass is thin, you can see bare spots, the ground feels hard – then it needs it)

Now, head to a garden centre, look at magazines, or even take a walk around your neighbourhood to see what others have done... it'll start the creative process – even if it's just to find out what you don't like.

We'll be exploring the many facets of gardening in upcoming articles and from many perspectives. Next week, we'll delve into just what kind of garden would suit you best.

Gabrielle Todd is a member of Fort Erie Communities-in- Bloom.

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MAY 1

MOVIE AT THE LIBRARY

The Summit: The story of the deadliest day on the world's most dangerous mountain, when 11 climbers mysteriously perished on K2. Fort Erie Public Library, Centennial branch. 6:30 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

SOCIAL GROUP

Drop in for a warm beverage and some lively conversation the first and third Tuesday of every month, 10 a.m. to noon. Bridges Community Health Centre, Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Rd. No registration required. For more information call 905-871-7621.

WALKING GROUP

The Walking Group meets twice weekly, Mondays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Leisureplex next to the Town Hall on Garrison Road. The group is open to anyone, but the focus is toward individuals with Diabetes who find it difficult maintaining an adequate activity level during the winter months. Services include pedometers for measuring distance, hand held tally counters for measuring laps, glucometers, a log book and resources for Diabetes management.

PARENTING NETWORK

group which meets monthly on the last Wednesday of each month from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Meetings provide support for caregivers of children, youth or adults with autism, a developmental disability, or mental health issues. Bridges Community Health Centre, Fort Erie.

SLEEP FOR HEALTH

Workshop, Bridges Community Health Centre, Port Colborne site, 177 King St. This workshop will focus on the value of sleep in a person's overall health and well-being. Learn how sleep affects weight management, mental and physical performance and your ability to handle stress. Take home tips and habits for getting better

sleep and improving your quality of life. The workshop will be held on Wednesday, April 30, 6:00-8:00pm. Please call 289-479-5017 X2421 to register.

GROCERY STORE TOURS

Discover how to make healthy food choices, read labels and shop on a budget. Offered by Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie. Tours will be scheduled based on expressed interest. Call 905-871-7621 for more information.

BORN TO READ

For babies newborn through those about to take their first steps and their parent or caregiver. Bounces, tickles, rhymes, music, movement, book sharing and more. Participants should bring a small blanket and toy. \$2 per session. Pre-registration not required. Fort Erie Public Library Centennial branch. Thursdays, 1:30 p.m.

READY TO READ

Join us for reading, writing, talking, singing and playing - the five fundamental skills that get children Ready to Read! For children ages 1.5 and up. \$2 per session. Pre-registration not required. Fort Erie Public Library Centennial branch. Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.; Crystal Ridge branch,

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

BRAIN EMPOWERING

Team support group for individuals with chronic health conditions, survivors of stroke, those with neurological impairments and volunteers. Weekly meetings in Fort Erie include speakers reading about health issues and discussions. New members welcome. Call 905-871-7510 or 905-871-3948.

NIAGARA ACTION

For Animals Bazaar every Saturday and Sunday and statutory holiday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the County Fair Mall. Proceeds to benefit local animals in need. For more information call Patricia Naylor at 905-871-7493.

KNITTING

Want to learn to knit or practice knitting? Ages 8-14 years old. Free in partnership with the Bowen Road Women's Institute. All materials are supplied. Fort Erie Public Library Crystal Ridge branch. Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.

BOWEN ROAD WOMEN'S

Institute meets third Thursday of the month at People's Memorial Church, Ridgeway, at 7 p.m.

WRITERS' GROUP

Fort Erie Public Library staffer and published

author Derek Clendenning offers tips and advice to writers of all ages, teen through senior. Bring your work; bring your questions. Free. First Wednesday of every month, 6:30 p.m., Centennial.

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COLON CLEANSING AND OTHER DETOX METHODS

People often come to the store looking for products that will cleanse their colon, or detoxify their system. They have heard that regular colon or liver cleansing and other methods of detoxification can rid the body of pollutants, aid in weight loss, and prevent cancer.

The theory that over time the body can accumulate harmful toxins such as metals and pesticides is often perpetuated by the media and other advertisers. Proponents believe special treatments including herbs or supplements given orally, or as enemas, or special diets, can remove these toxins from the body.

Unfortunately there is no proof to support any of these claims. There is no special product or method that can rid the body of toxins.

The body is an amazing machine equipped with liver and kidneys that are responsible for filtering and eliminating toxins from the body.

Detoxification programs can actually be dangerous. They often include laxatives that can cause significant diarrhea resulting in fluid loss, and electrolyte imbalances. Some laxatives can worsen heart failure or cause kidney failure in people who have kidney disease.

Enemas and colonics can also lead to electrolyte imbalances and can even cause a perforated rectum. Some deaths have actually been reported with the use of coffee enemas.

For patients who want to optimize their health there are some simple much safer steps that can be taken. The first step for overweight patients is to lose weight by eating more fruits and vegetables and less refined sugar. Secondly, drinking a few glasses of water can help with weight loss and general health. However, it is not necessary to over do water intake either. The body closely regulates the amount of water in your system through homeostasis and your kidneys. Drinking too much can force you to the bathroom with increased frequency and not provide you with any other additional "health" benefit. Simple exercise like walking and some daily fresh air can improve mood and aid in weight loss as well.

For patients who want to take a supplement, there are some that can improve your health. Vitamin D, and Omega 3's have shown significant health benefits. Adults should take at least 1000 IU of vitamin D a day for bone health and cancer prevention. Omega 3's (EPA and OHA) have shown benefits for heart and brain health. An aspirin a day is also promoted for heart and stroke protection. Finally naturally occurring antioxidants that come in berries, green tea, and other naturally occurring sources can help with general overall health.

If you want to improve your health, it is best to avoid colon and liver cleanses and stick to the above mentioned strategies. Speak to your family physician or pharmacist if you would like to add in a supplement, and for advice on the best way for you to "get healthy".

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Birthdays Birthdays Birthdays Birthdays Birthdays Birthdays

90th Birthday Celebration

for



Ann Clark!

May 10, 2014

12 noon - 3pm

Sherkston Community Centre
(corner of Sherkston Rd. & Empire)

90

Happy Birthday!

Please come and hang out at the
Open House

for
Maytie Ervine's
90th Birthday!



Saturday, May 10th, 2014
2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at
People's Memorial United Church,
Ridge Rd N. and Dominion Rd.,
Ridgeway

If Maytie has touched your
life in any way, or if you have
touched hers, she would
love to see you there!
Cake and coffee will be served.
(Best wishes only)



Birthdays Birthdays Birthdays Birthdays Birthdays Birthdays

80th Birthday

OPEN HOUSE

The families of Della Johnson, Madeleine
Benner and Jean-Paul Blais cordially invite
you to an open house in
honour of their sister
Simone's 80th birthday.

Please join us
Saturday, May 3rd from 1-4 pm
at the Stevensville Conservation Hall

Best Wishes Only



BEULAH RUNG

May God Bless you with many more!

With Love & Admiration
Your Family

Obituaries

Obituaries

REINHARDT, Shirley June - Passed
away Tuesday April 22, 2014 at Douglas
Memorial at the age of 82, with her
nephews at her side after a brief but
courageous fight with cancer. Shirley was
predeceased by her parents Sherwood and
Gladys Reinhardt and her twin brother
Sherwood. She is survived by her nephews
Jim, Jack, Bob and Dave Reinhardt and
their families. A special thanks to Dr. Kim
Scher, the nurses and all of her friends and
neighbors for their support. At Shirley's
request cremation has taken place and a
private family interment will be held at a
later date. Arrangements entrusted to
NAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES,
905-894-0120.

Obituaries

Obituaries

DAVIS, Gregory - passed away at his
residence in Fort Erie at the age of 54
years. Survived by his parents Don and
Martha Davis of Port Colborne, sister
Jayne Davis and her husband Dufr Waring
of Toronto. Arrangements entrusted to
DAVIDSON FUNERAL HOME, 105
Clarence St., Port Colborne. Cremation has
taken place. Private interment at a later
date. If so desired memorial donations may
be made to the Central United Church, Port
Colborne or the Canadian Red Cross.
Online condolences and guest register
available at:
www.davidsonfuneralhome.com

McINTYRE, Archie E. - Archie passed
away at the Greater Niagara General
Hospital on Tuesday April 22nd, 2014 at the
age of 79. Predeceased by his parents
Douglas and Jennie McIntyre. Survived by
his siblings Ronald, R. Carl, Leon, Evelyn,
Hert and Dorothy O'Brien. Predeceased by
siblings Jimmy, Connie Lever, Doug and
Betty. He will be sadly missed by his
nieces and nephews and his extended
family. Archie called Eastwood Manor in
Crystal Beach Home for a number of years
and after leaving the compassion and
professional care found there, was
fortunate to find caregivers Wanda and Joe
who allowed Archie to continue to live with
dignity and pride. **BENNER FUNERAL
SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie
entrusted with arrangements. The family
invite friends to gather Friday April 25th at 1
pm until the time of a service to celebrate
Archie's life in the Benner Funeral Chapel
at 2 pm. Interment to follow in Greenwood
Cemetery. If so desired, donations to the
Cancer Society would be appreciated by
the family.

TROGLOR, James Thomas (Jim) -
At Greater Niagara General Hospital, on
Thursday April 17, 2014. James T.
Trogloor, devoted husband of Teresa for 66
years, loving father of Nancy von der
Kammer (Hertz) of Milton, ON, Larry of
Metcalfe, ON, Jenice Shew (Roger) of
Perth, ON, dear grandfather of Tracy,
Cheryl, Kim & Jason & 7 great grand
children. At Jim's request, the family will
be no visitation. A Celebration of Jim's
life will be held in Milton, ON, at a
later date. Arrangements entrusted to
NAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES
(905) 894-0120



John (Sonny) Engels

January 19, 1929 to May 1, 1994

Husband, Dad, Grandpa

Every day, in some small way,
Memories of you come our way.
Though absent, you are ever near,
Still missed, still loved and ever dear.

Janet and Family

Memorial Services

Memorial Services

A Memorial Service will be held for

Alice BURGER

on Saturday, May 3, 2014 at the
People's Memorial United Church in
Ridgeway. Visitation at 10:00 am;
Service to follow at 11:00 am.



Rowell, May - Memorial service to be
held at St. Paul's Anglican Church on
Saturday, May 03 at 2:00pm. Interment
and light luncheon to follow at St.
Paul's Church hall. Memorial donations
may be made to St. Paul's Church.



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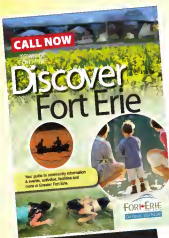
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May 7th, 2014

FIGHT BELLY FAT WITH CLA PLUS & GLUCOSMART

by Lorna Vanderhaeghe

If weight loss were as simple as reducing calories and running the treadmill we would all be thin. But weight loss can be effortless when we adopt a new way of eating and take a couple of Health Canada licensed nutritional supplements that get to the root of the weight problem.

CLA PLUS Fat that Burns FAT

CLA PLUS contains conjugated linoleic acid (CLA) and green tea extract. CLA is a fat that safely melts fat away. In a 90-day, double-blind, placebo-controlled study published in 2000 in the Journal of Nutrition, CLA users taking 5000mg of CLA per day had an average weight reduction of seven pounds and an increase in lean muscle with NO diet change. CLA

in a dose of 8000mg per day was also given to a group of post menopausal women and they lost weight with no diet change. Just think if they would have eaten a fat burning diet too! **CLA PLUS** also contains green tea extract to super charge weight loss and rev up fat burning by enhancing metabolism.

Belly Fat Busting GLUCOSmart

Belly fat is a stubborn problem. No end of sit-ups and crunches make it disappear. We know that insulin is implicated in belly fat weight gain in both men and women. Elevated insulin promotes weight gain, diabetes and excess belly fat. Skin tags are an early sign of pre-diabetes. Thankfully, busting belly fat and normalizing insulin just got easier. The nutrient ChiroSitol (pronounced "kur-au-sitol"), found in **GLUCOSmart** researched in over 30 studies at the Virginia Medical School, works to keep blood sugar in the healthy range. **GLUCOSmart** halts sugar cravings. But where **GLUCOSmart** really shines is in fighting belly fat in both men and women. Combine **CLA PLUS** along with **GLUCOSmart** and drink **SLIM-T** containing Garcinia and weight loss will be effortless.



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